

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An image display method for displaying two or more images of an identical object to be compared, wherein the two or more images are displayed together in a row or a column with positions of a structural feature area of the identical object in the two or more images aligned horizontally or vertically,

wherein each of the two or more images is added onto an image display one by one.

2. (original): An image display method according to Claim 1, wherein each of the two or more images of the identical object to be compared is a radiation image for medical use.

3. (original): An image display method according to Claim 2, wherein each of the two or more images of the identical object to be compared is an original image.

4. (original): An image display method according to Claim 3, wherein the two or more original images are taken at different points in time.

5. (original): An image display method according to Claim 2, wherein the two or more images of the identical object to be compared include at least one of a plurality of original images and a subtraction image, which is derived by matching positions of two images selected out of said plurality of original images and taking a differential between the selected two images.

6. (original): An image display method according to Claim 5, wherein said plurality of original images are taken at different points in time.

7. (canceled).

8. (currently amended): An image display apparatus for displaying two or more images of an identical object to be compared, comprising
image display means for displaying the two or more images thereon and
position matching means for arranging the two or more images in a row or a column so that positions of a structural feature area of the identical object in the two or more images are aligned horizontally or vertically,

wherein the image display means adds each of the two or more images onto an image display one by one.

9. (original): An image display apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein each of the two or more images of the identical object to be compared is a radiation image for medical use.

10. (original): An image display apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein each of the two or more images of the identical object to be compared is an original image.

11. (original): An image display apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein the two or more original images are taken at different points in time.

12. (original): An image display apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein the two or more images of the identical object to be compared include at least one of a plurality of original images and a subtraction image, which is derived by matching positions of two images selected out of said plurality of original images and taking a differential between the selected two images.

13. (original): An image display apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein said plurality of original images are taken at different points in time.

14. (canceled).

15. (previously presented): An image display method according to claim 1, wherein the two or more images physically occupy different areas of a display when the two images are simultaneously displayed.

16. (previously presented): An image display method according to claim 1, wherein a first of the two images represents the object at a first time, and a second of the two objects represents the object at a second time different from the first time.

17. (previously presented): An image display method according to claim 1, wherein the position of the structural feature area of the identical object in the two or more images are displayed according to one of the following:

1) the identical object in two images are displayed at a common horizontal coordinate but different vertical coordinate and

2) the identical objects in the two images are displayed at a common vertical coordinate but different horizontal coordinate.

18. (previously presented): An image display apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said image display means conducts a subtraction processing to derive a subtraction image from the two or more images.

19. (currently amended): An image display method for displaying two or more images of an identical object to be compared, wherein

the two or more images are displayed together in a row or a column with positions of a structural feature area of the identical object in the two or more images aligned horizontally or vertically~~An image display method according to claim 1,~~

wherein each of said two or more images comprises a header information wherein said header information comprises:

an ID number which is unique to an object;
a code representing an imaged site of the object;
an orientation information of the object upon imaging; and
a date of imaging.

20. (previously presented): An image display method according to claim 19, wherein said two or more images comprise the same ID number, the same code and a different date of imaging.

21. (previously presented): An image display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said subtraction image is obtained after a position matching operation of the position matching means.

22. (previously presented): An image display method according to claim 1, wherein said two or more images are displayed together in a row or column are arranged side by side at a given time.

23. (previously presented): An image display apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the two or more images physically occupy different areas of a display when the two images are simultaneously displayed.

24. (previously presented): An image display apparatus according to claim 8, wherein a first of the two images represents the object at a first time, and a second of the two objects represents the object at a second time different from the first time.

25. (previously presented): An image display apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the position of the structural feature area of the identical object in the two or more images are displayed according to one of the following:

1) the identical object in two images are displayed at a common horizontal coordinate but different vertical coordinate and

2) the identical objects in the two images are displayed at a common vertical coordinate but different horizontal coordinate.

26. (previously presented): An image display method according to claim 1, wherein said structural feature area of the identical object comprises an anatomical region of interest to be compared.

27. (previously presented): An image display apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said structural feature area of the identical object comprises an anatomical region of interest to be compared.

28. (previously presented): An image display method according to claim 1, wherein said structural feature area of the identical object comprises a part of a human body.

29. (previously presented): An image display apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said structural feature area of the identical object comprises a part of a human body.

30. (previously presented): An image display method according to claim 1, wherein said structural feature area of the identical object comprises at least one of a human body, an animal, a plant, an industrial product, a landform, a celestial body and a landscape.

31. (previously presented): An image display apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said structural feature area of the identical object comprises at least one of a human body, an animal, a plant, an industrial product, a landform, a celestial body and a landscape.

32. (previously presented): An image display method according to claim 1, further comprising physically aligning horizontally or vertically the two or more displayed images according to the structural feature area of the identical object.

33. (previously presented): An image display apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said two or more images are physically aligned horizontally or vertically on the image display means according to the structural feature area of the identical object.